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LETTER DATED 26 OCTOBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I refer to the letter dated 15 September 1994 (S/1994/1063) from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and New Zealand addressed to the President of the Security Council, containing a series of proposals for improving the consultation procedures that currently exist between the Secretary-General, troop-contributing countries and the members of the Security Council.

Ireland has consistently supported the peace-keeping activities of the United Nations and has actively participated in many of its peace-keeping operations. Accordingly, as a troop-contributing nation of long standing, we have welcomed the recent efforts made to improve the transparency of the work of the Security Council by providing for closer and more frequent consultations between troop-contributing nations, the representatives of the Secretary-General and Council members.

While welcoming those steps already taken, we believe that the process of improving consultation procedures can and should be further developed. In particular, we would welcome any efforts to extend and institutionalize the consultation procedures that already exist. We share the view that the greater transparency of the Council's operations that would result from such improved consultation procedures would greatly help to strengthen political support in all troop-contributing countries for the various peace-keeping mandates of the Organization.

We therefore wish to express our full support for the initiative taken by the delegations of Argentina and New Zealand. Without wishing to impinge in any way on the prerogatives of the members of the Council, we trust that their proposal will receive full consideration by the Council and can prove to be the basis for improved consultation procedures between troop-contributing countries, Council members and the Secretary-General.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Francis Mahon HAYES
Permanent Representative